

October 14, 2009

The Honorable Julius Genachowski,
The Honorable Meredith Attwell Baker,
The Honorable Mignon Clyburn,
The Honorable Michael L. Copps, and
The Honorable Robert M. McDowell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Broadband Industry Practices Docket No (07-52)

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

Hello – I would like to introduce you to Rotan, Texas. We are a proud town of just over 1,600 people. We are not close to Dallas or Houston or San Antonio or Austin. We are in West Texas and are proud of our Rotan citizens and students.

I am honored to be their Mayor. I thought you might like to know about us because you have spent an awful lot of time talking about us instead of to us. While we deeply appreciate the desire and goals set out by President Obama to bring high speed internet service to all the citizens of Texas. My citizen's children want to be able to be part of the super highway.

My citizens want to be able to access the best doctors, be they in Houston, Chicago or LA. Most of us cannot afford to make that trip. But we can make a trip to a facility connected to MD Anderson, and our children can connect to the University of Texas for education.

I am shocked by your stated positions to regulate the internet, or more specifically, the folks that deliver the internet. You appear to believe that my citizen's ability to get the health care they need from telemedicine, or the education they need from live streaming lecturers, is equally important as the peep shows the internet predators are shopping to our children. Yes, Mr. Chairman and Commissioners, we know that the internet brings great benefits to our community. We also understand that it brings the underbelly of society here too.

We want someone to be able to say that health care information is more important than that smut. We want our children's education not to be interrupted by a chat room.

We are a sensible lot here in Rotan. We have no ivory towers. Come and get some dust on your boots, and let us help you to craft policies that recognize that in this world not everything that travels on the internet is equal – nor should it be.

Sincerely,



Dr. Jerry Marshall

Mayor of Rotan, Texas